

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 SS-20 ISO-00 EB-11 NSC-07 NSCE-00 COME-00

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FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1835

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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PASS AGRICULTURE FOR GOODMAN AND BELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR ETRD CH US

SUBJECT: TCK WHEAT DISCUSSIONS

1. TCK TEAM MET AGAIN WITH CEROILFOOD TUES PM. FOLLOWING
PREPARED STATEMENT WAS DELIVERED BY MARQUOT IN BEHALF OF
TRADAX/DREYFUS, COPY OF WHICH WAS ALSO LEFT WITH CEROILFOOD
OFFICIALS AT CLOSE OF MEETING:

IN OUR MEETING YESTERDAY, IT WAS STATED THAT THE
USDA TECHNICIANS WERE PREPARED TO RECOMMEND MORE RIGID
PHYTOSANITARY INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES.
THESE WOULD REINFORCE THE IMPROVED PRACTICES WE, THE
SHIPPERS, HAVE PROMISED TO TAKE SO THAT US WHEAT SHIPMENTS
WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO CHINA.

UNTIL TODAY IT COULD NOT BE SAID WHETHER USDA
AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON WOULD ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION
OF THE TECHNICIANS IN PEKING, NOR COULD IT BE SAID UNDER
WHAT CONDITIONS THE RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE ACCEPTED.

TODAY HOWEVER, WE CAN REPORT THAT THE USDA IN
WASHINGTON ARE DEFINITELY WILLING TO IMPLEMENT INSPECTION
METHODS AT THE POINTS OF LOADING EQUALLY EFFECTIVE TO
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THOSE ALREADY BEING CARRIED OUT AT DISCHARGING PORTS IN

CHINA.

THIS MEANS THAT THEY WOULD NOT AUTHORIZE THE
ISSUANCE OF A PSC ON WHEAT SHIPMENTS TO CHINA UNLESS THE
RESULTS OF INSPECTION SHOW THE WHEAT TO BE FREE OF TCK.

THE PSC IS NOT ISSUED UNTIL THE VESSEL IS FULLY
LOADED. USE OF MORE STRICT MEASURES MAY MEAN THAT A
FULLY LOADED VESSEL MAY BE REFUSED OF PSC. THIS IS A
RISK WE ARE READY TO TAKE. HOWEVER, SHOULD IT BE NECESSARY
TO DIVERT THE VESSEL TO ANOTHER DESTINATION, IN SUCH CASES
WE REQUEST THE FULL AND FRIENDLY COOPERATION OF CEROILFOOD
AND ZHONGZU TO ADOPT A REASONABLE APPROACH AND TO
NEGOTIATE A REASONABLE SETTLEMENT.

IN RETURN FOR THESE MEASURES, WE HAVE MADE ONE
SPECIFIC REQUEST. THIS REQUEST IS THAT IN SUCH AN
EXCEPTIONAL CASE A VESSEL IS DESIGNATED TCK FREE BY THE US
TEST BUT MIGHT BE FOUND TO CONTAIN TCK AT THE TIME OF
DISCHARGE IN SPITE OF THE NEW MEASURES TAKEN, BUYERS
CLEARLY AGREE NOT TO REJECT SUCH A VESSEL.

IF A SOLUTION ALONG THESE LINES IS REACHED, WE CAN
GIVE FULL ASSURANCE THAT THE NEW MEASURES WILL BE
EFFECTED AT AN EARLY DATE. LET US MAKE CLEAR THAT
EXTENSIVE PREPARATION WOULD BE NECESSARY. LABORATORY
PERSONNEL MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE AND THERE MUST BE
FURTHER EXAMINATION OF SAMPLING ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES TO
CLEARLY ARRIVE AT METHODS WHICH ARE EQUALLY EFFECTIVE
TO THOSE ALREADY APPLIED IN CHINA. IN OUR ESTIMATION
THIS MAY TAKE SOME WEEKS, BUT THE UTMOST EFFORTS WILL BE
MADE SO THAT SHIPMENTS OF US WHEAT TO CHINA CAN BE
RESUMED AT AN EARLY DATE.

3. BRIEF CEROILFOOD RESPONSE INDICATED (1) THEY ARE
GLAD TO SEE THE SERIOUS APPROACH WHICH US AUTHORITIES
ARE READY TO TAKE, (2) THEY CAN ONLY CONVEY THE SHIPPERS'
REQUEST (FOR WAIVER OF REJECTION RIGHT) TO THE
"DEPARTMENTS AND END-USERS". CONCERNED.

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